



PDC NEWS

711 Capitol Way, Room 206
Olympia Washington

Public Disclosure Commission

Christine Yorozu, Chair
Gerry Marsh, Vice-Chair
Lois Clement, Secretary
Susan Brady, Commissioner
Ronda Cahill, Commissioner

October 23, 2001

Volume 1 Issue No 4

Commission Adopts Rules at Public Hearing

The Public Disclosure Commission approved three rule packages relating to Mini Campaign Reporting, Contribution Limitations and Electronic Filing and postponed action on proposed rule amendments regarding the Occupation and Employer reporting threshold.

- I. **Rules Regarding Mini Reporting.** This package relates to four existing rules and was designed to complete the process for eliminating Abbreviated reporting and raising the Mini reporting thresholds. Commission action:
 - Amended **WAC 390-16-115 Abbreviated Campaign Reporting – Conditions for Granting Use.** This amendment changed the title and incorporates parts of WAC 390-16-120 concerning the times and place for filing reports.
 - Repealed **WAC 390-16-120 Abbreviated Campaign Reporting – Times and Place for Filing Reports C-1, C-1pc and C-4abb.**
 - Amended **WAC 390-16-125 Abbreviated Campaign Reporting – Exceeding Limitations.** This amendment changes the title from Abbreviated to Mini and clarifies the process by which a filer changes from Mini reporting to Full reporting.
 - Repealed **WAC 390-16-155 Mini Campaign Reporting – Exceeding Limitations.**
- II. **Rules on I-134 Thresholds and Implementation of HB 1770.** This package of rules, adopted by the Commission, changes the limit and threshold amounts established by Initiative 134 and converts PDC Interpretation 01-02 into a permanent rule. Commission action:
 - Amended **WAC 390-05-400 Changes in Dollar Amounts.** RCW 42.17.690 requires the Commission to revise the dollar amounts established by Initiative 134 at the beginning of each even-numbered year. This rule made inflationary adjustments to contribution limits and other dollar amounts.
 - Adopted **WAC 390-17-302 Contributions After the Primary Election.** This new rule implements House Bill 1770 allowing contributions to be made to primary election losers for 30 days after the primary to pay off debts incurred during the primary election.
- III. **Rules Regarding Electronic Filing.** The new rules represent the first step in implementing RCW 42.17.3691 and are designed to provide guidance to candidates and political committees required to file reports electronically. Commission action:
 - Adopted **WAC 390-19-010 Intent of Electronic Filing.**
 - Adopted **WAC 390-19-020 Electronic Filing – Mandatory Filing.**
 - Adopted **WAC 390-19-030 Electronic Filing – Reporting Threshold.**
 - Adopted **WAC 390-19-040 Electronic Filing – Verification and Amendments.**
 - Adopted **WAC 390-19-050 Electronic Filing – Exceptions.**

The Commission postponed final action on a package of rules increasing the dollar threshold for reporting occupation and employer information until the December 4, 2001 meeting. The package consists of three proposed rule amendments. The first rule increased the dollar threshold at which campaigns report an individual's occupation and employer name and address from \$100 or more to a threshold of more than \$100. The two other rule amendments would make changes in campaign finance disclosure forms to comply with the amended threshold rule.

- **Amend WAC 390-16-034 Additional Reporting Requirements.**
- **Amend WAC 390-16-031 Forms for Statement of Contributions Deposit.**
- **Amend WAC 390-16-041 Forms – Summary of Total Contributions and Expenditures.**

Enforcement Action

The Commission adopted a stipulated agreement between the staff of the PDC and the Tacoma School District. In the agreement the Tacoma School District admitted that the Commission would most likely find multiple violations of state law if the matter were brought to a full enforcement hearing. The district also agreed to a \$1,000 civil penalty for failing to maintain open for public inspection documents relating to withholding wages for the purpose of making contributions to a political committee. [RCW 42.17.680(4)] Five hundred dollars of the civil penalty was suspended contingent upon no future violations of the Public Disclosure Law for four years.

The Commission also levied a civil penalty against Leslie Martinez, City Council Member in the City of Enumclaw, for violating RCW 42.17.240 by failing to file the annual Statement of Financial Affairs by April 16, 2001. Ms. Martinez was fined \$500 and currently has an outstanding civil penalty of \$650 for past violations of the disclosure law.

Requests for Review

The Commission examined six requests from individuals to review action taken at a brief enforcement hearing held on July 30, 2001. The following action was taken at the meeting:

William Boyce, School Director, Kent School Board #415, request for review was denied.

Claude Hicks, City Council Member in the City of Airway Heights, request for review was denied.

Edward Smith, City Council Member in the City of Castle Rock, reviewed and suspended the previously levied \$100 civil penalty if no violations of RCW 42.17 occur during the next two years.

Rhonda Steinman, City Council Member in the City of Aberdeen, reviewed and suspended \$50 of the previously levied \$100 civil penalty if no violations of RCW 42.17 occur during the next two years.

Cecil Stuurmans, School Director, Coupeville School District, request for review was denied.

Charles Styger, School Director, Napavine School District #14, request for review was postponed until the December meeting.

Reporting Modifications

The Commission granted a partial reporting modifications for filing the Personal Financial Affairs Statement to Melinda Travis, Commissioner, Washington State Lottery Commission and Cynthia Sullivan, King County Council Member. The Commission also granted a partial reporting modification to the ATU Local 587 No on I-745 Account.

The Commission renewed previous reporting modifications for the Washington State Democratic Central Committee, Washington State Republican Party, Dean Lum, King County Superior Court Judge, Robert Craves, Board Member, Higher Education Coordinating Board, and Jeanne Stewart, Candidate for Vancouver City Council.

The Commission meeting materials may be found at www.pdc.wa.gov under **Commission Meetings** at **Meeting Agendas and Materials**. For additional information concerning these issues contact Doug Ellis, Director of Public Outreach, at (360) 664-2735, toll free 1-877-601-2828 or e-mail at dellis@pdc.wa.gov.

